



(Translation)

Mailed: April 2, 2002

NOTIFICATION OF REASONS FOR REJECTION

Patent Application No.: 2000-196910

Examiner's Notice Date: March 27, 2002

Examiner: J. KORIYAMA

This application is rejected on the grounds stated below. Any opinion about the rejection must be filed within 60 days of the mailing date hereof.

REASON 1

The invention is unpatentable under Section 29 (1) (iii) of the Patent Law as being described in the following distributed publication or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines in Japan or a foreign country prior to this application.

REMARKS

(1) Re: Claim 1

Reference 1 is applicable.

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REASON 2

The invention is unpatentable under Section 29 (2) of the Patent Law, as being such that the invention could easily have been made by a person with ordinary skill in the art to which the invention pertains, on the basis of the invention described in the following distributed publication(s) or made available to the public through electric telecommunication lines in Japan or a foreign country prior to this application.

REMARKS

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(1) Re: Claim 2

References 1 to 3 are applicable.

Reference 2 describes that samples in a main sample container are dispensed into sub sample containers, and that an identification label is affixed to the sub sample container. References 3 and 4 describe that an available region is detected, and that a chip for dispensing is used.

The present invention could have been made by merely combining the matters described in the references, and can be merely expected from the references.

References Cited

1. Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 11-316233
2. Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 2000-88861 (refer, especially, to FIG. 8)
3. Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 10-148633
4. Jpn. Pat. Appln. KOKAI Publication No. 4-372861

Prior Art Search Report

Searched Field: IPC 7th ed., G01N 35/00-35/08